(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Works undertaken through contract labour in the Southern Railway

125. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Southern Railway is undertaking vital works through contract labour affecting railway safety such as deep screening work, removal of points and crossings and relaying of tracks; and

(b) if so, the action Government have taken against the erring officials since this is in gross violation of the Railway Board's directive?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Southern Railway is undertaking some works of deep screening and relaying of tracks through contracts.

(b) Does not arise as it is not in violation of the Railway Board's directive.

Electrification of track in South India

126. SHRI B. SATYANARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board has taken a decision to stop further electrification of track in the entire South India;

(b) if so, the details of the sanctioned projects which are likely to be adversely effected by this decision and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) to (c) Priorities for electrification in the 7th Plan are to first complete electrification of Delhi-Bombay (both Central and Western Railway Routes), Delhi-Madras G. T. Route, Howrah-Bombay via Nagpur route and Colliery lines in Chandrapura Complex and some other small sections on operational considerations. In view of this and constraint of resources, taking up of the sanctioned works of electrification of Kazipet-Sanat Nagar and Jollarpettai Bangalore sections will be reviewed at the end of the 7th Plan.

Recognition of hawkers at Railway Sations

127. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the Howrah Railway Station Hawkers' Union and South Eastern Railway Hawkers' Union regarding their harassment at the railway stations and for their recognition on the pattern of the railway licence vender; and

(b) if so, what is the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand of unauthorised hawkers to give them vending licenses or employment has not been accepted.

Evaluation of the National Tuberculosis Control Programme

128. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report published in the Indian Express, the 20th March, 1986 about high incidence of T.B. in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that about 6 lakh 40 thousand persons die of TB in India every year;

(c) whether any evaluation has been made of the National Tuberculosis Control Programme launched in 1962 and the District Tuberculosis Control Programme evolved by the National Tuberculosis Institute, Bangalore;

(d) whether it is also a fact that both these programmes have totally failed in their objectives to control tuberculosis by 1978;